

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

July 8, 2008

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2803

Honorable Members
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 2803, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Personal Information."

The purpose of this bill is to implement the identity theft provisions for the security and protection of personal information collected and maintained by the counties and the State.

State agencies are already required by law to protect personal information. Personal privacy issues, including concerns over identity theft, are extremely important issues which State agencies will continue to address. My Administration has long recognized the need to secure and protect personal and confidential data. Since 2005 the Attorney General's office has been guiding the efforts of the Identity Theft Task Force to put into place procedures to protect personal records and to ensure prompt reporting of any breaches of these protections.

This bill is objectionable because, contrary to its stated intent, it would make it easier to access personal and confidential information contained in State and county documents. The bill would require each agency of government to submit a comprehensive list on the existence and character of all personal information contained in the systems of the executive, legislative, judicial, and county agencies of government. This compilation of personal information would detail how personal

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information is gathered, where the information is stored, what the information contains, the categories of individuals on whom the information is maintained, and numerous other specific details of how the government uses personal data.

This exercise has the potential to compromise the protections the legislation attempts to institute. A compilation of this magnitude and detail begs for attention detrimental to those whose records are accessed and provides a convenient road map to anyone who wants to access any and all information on government employees or the citizens it serves.

Further, the bill fails to provide the Department of Accounting and General Services with the authority it would need to enforce data security policy directives across all jurisdictions and within the legislative and judicial branches.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning Senate Bill No. 2803 without my approval.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Lingle", is written over the printed name.

LINDA LINGLE
Governor of Hawaii